This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1.   (Currently Amended) In a system for construction of executable queries, a method of communicating with an application, comprising:

the system receiving from the application, one or more calls to set one or more compile parameters and commands for converting ~~one or more~~ a plurality of input queries to an XML intermediate language representation, wherein the XML intermediate language representation is a composite of the plurality of input queries; and

the system receiving from the application, one or more calls to convert the XML intermediate language representation to ~~an~~ at least one executable query, the at least one executable query enabling the system to query over a plurality of data sources having differing data models.

2.   (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising the application receiving from the system one or more of the group consisting of event status, progress status, intermediate results, final results, error messages, warnings and help messages.

3.   (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the one or more calls to set one or more environment, compile parameters and compile commands comprise one or more of enabling message reception from the system, specifying query permission and execution restrictions, selecting the input query and compiler type, and establishing evaluation contexts.

4.   (Original) The method of claim 3, wherein the compiler type comprises XPath, XSLT and XQuery language compilers.

5.   (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the XML intermediate language representation is a semantic representation of an input query.

6.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein converting the XML
intermediate language to the executable query comprises preparing the XML intermediate
language for direct execution in a target query execution engine, wherein direct execution
avoids the use of a compiler for the target execution engine.

7.   (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein converting the XML intermediate
language to the executable query comprises converting the XML intermediate language into a
target representation using a target generator.

8.   (Original) The method of claim 7, wherein the target representation is one or more of
the group consisting of an XML language target, a SQL language target and an intermediate
language target.

9.   (Cancelled)

10.   (Currently Amended) A system for compilation and execution of input queries
producing query results, comprising:

        an input device a plurality of input devices for receiving an input querya plurality of
input queries;

        one or more intermediate language compilers wherein an a composite XML
intermediate language representation is compiled from the plurality of input queries; input
query;

        one or more a plurality of target generators wherein the XML intermediate language
representation is transformed into a plurality of target queries one or more target
representations forming a target query;

        one or more a plurality of data sources for querying over; and

~~an execution engine~~ a plurality of execution engines wherein the plurality of target queries are ~~target query is~~ executed over the ~~one or more~~ plurality of data sources to produce the query results.

11.   (Currently Amended) The system of claim 10, wherein the plurality of input queries comprise queries ~~input query comprises a query~~ formed from one or more of XPath, XSLT, and XQuery languages.

12.   (Original) The system of claim 10, wherein the XML intermediate language representation expresses the meaning of the input query.

13.   (Currently Amended) The system of claim 10, wherein the ~~one or more~~ plurality of target generators comprise one or more of an XML language generator, a SQL language generator and an intermediate language generator.

14.   (Currently Amended) The system of claim 10, wherein the ~~one or more~~ plurality of data sources comprise one or more of relational data sources and non-relational data sources.

15.   (Original) The system of claim 14, wherein non-relational data sources comprise spreadsheets and word processing documents.